



HR1321

LRB097 23608 MST 72665 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members the Illinois House Representatives  
3 are pleased to honor our friend and colleague, Illinois State  
4 Representative Jim Watson, for his many years of dedicated  
5 service to the people of the State of Illinois; and

6           WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson was born on July 30, 1965, in  
7 Jerseyville and raised in Jacksonville, attending Routt  
8 Catholic High School; he is the son of Evelyn Suess; and

9           WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson earned his bachelor's of arts and  
10 master's of arts degree in history from Eastern Illinois  
11 University in 1988 and 1990; he also received his master's of  
12 business administration from the University of Illinois,  
13 Champaign-Urbana in 1997; and

14           WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson served his country with pride and  
15 distinction as a member of the United States Marine Corps and  
16 the Marine Corps Reserves; he is a veteran of both the First  
17 Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom; while in Iraq, he served  
18 as a Governance Chief and the Chief Liaison to the Anbar  
19 Provincial Council, assisting the Iraqi people during their  
20 transition to a representative form of government; in July  
21 2010, he was awarded the National Medal of Civic Honor for his  
22 combined service as a veteran and a lawmaker from the National

1 Conference of State Legislators; of the 8,000 state legislators  
2 nationwide, there are only 62 recipients of the medal and Rep.  
3 Watson is the only legislator from Illinois to receive the  
4 award; and

5 WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson, while earning his degrees, worked  
6 as a graduate assistant at Eastern Illinois University and as a  
7 social studies teacher at Auburn and Highland high schools;  
8 after graduating, he went on to become the VP of Marketing at  
9 Wareco and was an adjunct professor of strategic management at  
10 MacMurray and Blackburn Colleges; and

11 WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson served as State representative of  
12 the 97th District from 2001 to 2011; during his tenure in the  
13 House, he served as assistant Republican leader for two years;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson is a member of numerous veterans  
16 and civic organizations, including the Marine Corps League, the  
17 Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Shriners, the Sons of the  
18 American Legion, Big Brothers Big Sisters, the United Way,  
19 Rotary International, the Elks, the Chamber of Commerce, and  
20 the Knights of Columbus; and

21 WHEREAS, Rep. Jim Watson and his loving wife, Lisa, reside  
22 in Jacksonville with their children, Katie, Jacob, and Lexi;

1 therefore, be it

2       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we honor Illinois State Representative Jim Watson on his time  
5 in the General Assembly, his dedication to the people of his  
6 district, and his service to the people of the State of  
7 Illinois; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to Representative Jim Watson.